

Student Dies After Collapsing at Marathon

By Natasha Plotkin
NEWS EDITOR

Kjell A. Tovander '09 died on Sunday after collapsing during the Route 66 Marathon in Tulsa, Okla.

Tovander, who was running in the half-marathon division of the race, was attended to by medical staff at the event before he was taken to St. John Medical Center where he died, according to *Tulsa World*, the city's daily newspaper.

Tovander, a Course VI major and resident of MacGregor House, was on leave from MIT and was planning

to enter the Navy, the *Tulsa World* reported. MacGregor residents were informed of his death in an e-mail from the housemaster last night.

The Oklahoma medical examiner said yesterday that the cause of death was still unknown and that a final determination based on test results would be available within the next four months, according to the *Claremore Daily Progress*, the newspaper of Tovander's hometown.

In an interview with a local television station, his mother, Margie Tovander, said that "he had just had

a physical a few months ago with the Navy, and everything came out perfect."

Chris Lieberman, executive director of the race said, "We are deeply saddened that one of our runners didn't come home ... Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of this young man," according to *Tulsa World*.

At MIT, Tovander was involved in UROP research in the Sports Innovation program. He worked on a project that aimed to develop better chest protectors for catchers. The project was

featured in the *Boston Globe* in April.

Tovander was chair of his entry, D-entry, in MacGregor when he was a sophomore in 2006-2007.

Thomas Rand-Nash G, D-entry graduate resident tutor, wrote in an e-mail to the entry, "Those who knew Kjell loved him, because he was awesome in his own unique way."

At his high school in Claremore, he had been valedictorian of his class and a member of the marching band.

His mother said to the local TV station, "He inspired everyone. Touched a lot of lives."

Institute To Cut Budget, Slow Hiring

By Michael McGraw-Herdeg and Robert McQueen
STAFF REPORTERS

MIT will cut general spending by five percent in the fiscal year beginning next July, and by 10-15 percent within the next three years, the president and provost said in a letter to the MIT community yesterday. The announcement mirrors announcements by elite universities similarly affected by the global financial crisis.

The policy amounts to a \$50 million reduction from \$1 billion general funds budget in the current fiscal year. The policy will not affect budget items whose funds come from external sources like rent, outside research sponsorships, or the Student Life Fee.

An outright hiring freeze is not planned, but hiring will slow.

"We will retain our commitment to need-blind admission and need-based undergraduate financial aid," President Susan J. Hockfield and Provost L. Rafael Reif wrote.

W1 still in limbo

MIT decided in October not to sign contracts committing to renovate W1, which was to open as an undergraduate dormitory by 2010. The Institute will still reconsider signing a contract next year. The decision would have eventually committed MIT to \$90 million in bond-financed debt, and postponing it was "a very prudent thing to do," said Kirk D. Kolenbrander, vice president for institute affairs and secretary of the MIT Corporation.

"We know the W1 decision was not costless," said Steven R. Lerman '72, Dean for Graduate Education,

Non-Profit Connects Low-Income Applicants With MIT

By Arkajit Dey
NEWS EDITOR

The number of early applications increased by approximately 25 percent this year, partly as a result of MIT's new partnership with QuestBridge, a non-profit organization that connects low-income students with top colleges.

MIT received about 5,000 early applications this year, up from last year's 3,937 total, said Dean of Admissions Stuart Schmill '86. A final count for this year was not yet available yesterday.

The more than 600 students who applied to MIT through QuestBridge account for about half this year's increase in applications.

The QuestBridge's National College Match program is meant to help "outstanding low-income high school seniors gain admission and full four-year scholarships to some of the nation's most selective colleges," according to the organization's website.

QuestBridge applicants fill out an application separate from MIT's but which is at least as rigorous, Schmill said. "It has all of the data and questions we otherwise ask," along with "significantly more questions and essays than any other university's application," Schmill said.

Early action and QuestBridge applications are considered in the same way, and students have the same test requirements, Schmill said.

Applications submitted through QuestBridge are screened by the organization before MIT reads them. "Every partner school sets its own kind of filter on how many applications they'd like to read and how much they'd like us to screen," said

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Thousands Gather at Boston City Hall, Protest California's Gay Marriage Ban



RAMYA SANKAR—THE TECH

Protestors hold signs at the Join the Impact rally on Saturday outside Boston City Hall. The rally was a part of a national protest against the passage of Proposition 8, the ban on same-sex marriage in California.

By Ramya Sankar
STAFF REPORTER

Thousands of people gathered at Boston City Hall on Saturday to rally against the passage of Proposition 8, the recent ban on same-sex marriage in California.

The roughly 4,000 attendants stood in the rain, many holding signs and banners with slogans like "Stop the H8" and "Equal Rights for All."

Through the afternoon people shouted chants like, "Gay, straight, black, white, marriage is a civil

right," and listened to speakers who included state Congress members Edward J. Markey and Nikki Tsongas and U.S. Congressman Michael E. Capuano.

Some of the attendants were gay couples who had gotten married in Massachusetts, now the only state other than Connecticut to allow gay marriage.

MIT students participated in the event in a variety of capacities.

MIT graduate student Lisa F. Marshall was one of the organizers

of the event. She said she wanted the event to be a "call to action."

The protest was one of about 150 rallies held around the country that day, all organized by Join the Impact, a national movement that started in Seattle soon after the proposition passed.

MIT graduate student Alessondra Springmann attended the rally with 14 other residents and friends of the living group pika.

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UMOC Donations Through Monday

Candidate	Charity	Total
13-Year-Old Grapefruit Juice Found in the Sub-basement of Bldg. 66	UNICEF	\$2.57
Rachel A. Bowens-Rubin '11	National Speleological Society	\$11.11
Michael J. Snively '11	Foundation for a Smokefree America	\$9.20
BMF Microwave	Doctors Without Borders	\$3.75
Mario the Plumber	Save the Children	\$1.25
Little Paul	Pine Street Inn	\$13.00

SOURCE: ALPHA PHI OMEGA

The week-long charity fundraiser "Uncleanest Manifestation on Campus" started yesterday in Lobby 10. The winner of the charity contest, which is sponsored by service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega, will get all raised funds donated to their designated charity. The given totals are the amounts raised as of Monday.

Siddiqui Found Not Competent

Aafia Siddiqui '95, the MIT alumna arrested in Afghanistan in July, has been declared "not competent" to stand trial "as a result of her mental disease, which renders her unable to understand the nature and consequences of the proceedings against her or to assist properly in her defense," according to a forensic evaluation dated Nov. 6 and quoted in a court order released yesterday. Siddiqui had been previously diagnosed with chronic depressive type psychosis in September.

Siddiqui was arrested in Afghanistan in July; she was suspected of carrying a bomb. She allegedly attacked U.S. personnel while in custody, and has been held by the U.S. since. Siddiqui had been missing since 2003, when she disappeared in Karachi, Pakistan. She had been wanted since 2004 by the U.S. government, in part because of her marriage to Amar Al-Baluchi, an accused terrorist currently being held at

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In Short

¶ The Diversity Leadership Congress will take place today from 1-3 p.m. and will include a keynote address by former U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexis M. Herman and a panel discussion. Facilitators will lead group debriefings at remote viewing locations in the Student Center and E25-111. See <http://web.mit.edu/diversityleaders/>.

Send news information and tips to news@the-tech.mit.edu.

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WORLD & NATION

As Papers Shrink, Online Sites Are Community Watchdogs

By Richard Perez-Pena
THE NEW YORK TIMES

SAN DIEGO Over the last two years, some of this city’s darkest secrets have been dragged into the light — city officials with conflicts of interest and hidden pay raises, affordable housing that was not affordable, misleading crime statistics.

Investigations ensued. The chiefs of two redevelopment agencies were forced out. One of them faces criminal charges. Yet the main revelations came not from any of San Diego’s television and radio stations or its dominant newspaper, The Union-Tribune, but from a handful of young journalists at a nonprofit Web site run out of a converted military base far from downtown’s glass towers — a site that did not exist four years ago.

As America’s newspapers shrink and shed staff members, and broadcast news outlets sink in the ratings, a new kind of Web-based news operation has arisen in several cities, taking up some of the slack and forcing the mainstream media to follow the stories they uncover.

Here, it is VoiceofSanDiego.org, offering a brand of serious, original reporting by professional journalists — the province of the mainstream media, but without the expensive paper and ink. Since it began in 2005, similar operations have cropped up in New Haven, Conn.; the Twin Cities in Minnesota; Seattle; St. Louis; and Chicago. More are on the way.

Pirates Capture Supertanker With \$100 Million Cargo

By Robert F. Worth
THE NEW YORK TIMES

JEDDA, SAUDI ARABIA Pirates captured a Saudi-owned supertanker loaded with more than \$100 million worth of crude oil off the coast of Kenya, seizing the largest ship ever hijacked, U.S. Navy officials said Monday.

The hijacking follows a string of increasingly brazen attacks by Somali pirates in recent months, but this appears to be the first time pirates have seized a full oil tanker.

“This is unprecedented,” Lt. Nathan Christensen, a spokesman for the 5th Fleet, told Reuters. “It’s the largest ship that we’ve seen pirated. It’s three times the size of an aircraft carrier.”

The attack came despite an increased naval presence off the Somali coast, where most of the recent hijackings have taken place. The pirates are generally heavily armed, and travel in speedboats equipped with satellite phones and GPS equipment.

Piracy has increased sharply this year, with more than 80 ships attacked so far off the Somali coast, 36 of them successfully hijacked, according to the International Maritime Bureau, a piracy watchdog agency based in Kuala Lumpur. Among those hijacked, 14 ships with over 200 crew members are still being held.

Study Links Fertility Procedures With Risk of Birth Defects

By Denise Grady
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Infants conceived with techniques commonly used in fertility clinics are two to four times more likely to have certain birth defects than are infants conceived naturally, a new study has found.

The findings applied to single births only, not to twins or other multiples. The defects included heart problems, cleft lip, cleft palate and abnormalities in the esophagus or rectum. But those conditions are rare to begin with, generally occurring no more than once in 700 births, so the overall risk was still low, even after the fertility treatments. Cleft lip, for instance, typically occurs in one in 950 births in the United States, and the study found that the risk about doubled, to approximately one in 425, among infants conceived with the fertility treatments.

Ex-President Poses Hurdles for His Wife

By Don Van Natta Jr. and Jo Becker
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Over the weekend, former President Bill Clinton enthusiastically endorsed the prospect that his wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, might join the Obama administration as secretary of state. “If he decided to ask her and they did it together,” the former president said, “I think she’ll be really great as a secretary of state.”

Mr. Clinton delivered those remarks at an international economic symposium in Kuwait City sponsored by the National Bank of Kuwait, which said the former president would “share with a select audience his perspective on the issues likely to shape the future prospects of the region.”

It is precisely that kind of paid speech, which Mr. Clinton delivered 54 times last year for a total of \$10.1 million in fees, that has complicated the vetting process that Mrs. Clinton is undergoing by the Obama transition team. “Whatever happens or doesn’t happen is between Obama and her,” Mr. Clinton added.

That may be, but Mr. Clinton’s

postpresidential life as a globe-trotting philanthropist, business consultant and speech-giver poses the highest hurdle for Mrs. Clinton to overcome if President-elect Barack Obama chooses to nominate her as secretary of state, according to aides of the Clintons and Mr. Obama.

The Obama transition team is focused on the wide array of Mr. Clinton’s post-presidential activities, some details of which have not been made public. This list includes the identity of most of the donors to his foundation, the source of some of his speaking fees — he has earned as much as \$425,000 for a one-hour speech — and his work for the billionaire investor Ronald W. Burkle.

The vetting of Mr. Clinton’s myriad philanthropic and business dealings is “complicated, and it may be the complications that are causing hesitation on both sides,” said Abner J. Mikva, one of Obama’s closest supporters and a White House counsel during the Clinton administration. “There would have to be full disclosure as to who all were contributors to his library and foundation. I think they’d have to be made public.”

While aides to the president-elect

declined Monday to discuss what sort of requirements would make it possible for Mrs. Clinton to serve as secretary of state, they said Obama would not formally offer her the job unless he was satisfied that there would be no conflicts posed by Mr. Clinton’s activities abroad.

Associates of the Clintons said that Mr. Clinton was likely to have to make significant concessions and that he was inclined to do so. Among other things, they said, he would probably have to agree not to take money for speeches from foreign businesses that have a stake in the actions of the American government. Another obvious issue, Democratic lawyers said, would be whether Mr. Clinton’s foundation should accept money from foreign governments, businesses or individuals for the foundation’s philanthropic activities and if it should disclose those donors publicly.

“The problem is it’s going to require some sacrifice by him,” said a former Clinton aide who is not involved in the discussions but did not want to be identified because the talks are confidential. “If he’s not willing to do that, it could blow up.”

Chief Fights for GM’s Future, and His

By Bill Vlasic
THE NEW YORK TIMES

DETROIT Rick Wagoner cannot afford to leave Washington this week without at least \$10 billion in federal aid to keep General Motors in business.

But a major question for Wagoner, GM’s chief executive for the last eight years, is whether he will return to Detroit with his job as well.

While the heads of the Ford Motor Co., Chrysler and the United Automobile Workers are scheduled to also testify before Congress on Tuesday and Wednesday, it is Wagoner and his company that have become the lightning rods of the debate over whether Detroit should get a bailout.

GM, the largest American automaker, is in desperate need of cash to survive the worst vehicle market in the United States in 15 years. Wagoner has, so far, led the industry’s in-

tensive lobbying effort to get federal loans for all three companies.

Like Lee Iacocca, Chrysler’s chief in 1979, Wagoner has the tall task of persuading skeptical Republican lawmakers to back a Democratic plan to save Detroit.

But unlike Iacocca, Wagoner’s 31-year career at GM has not been built on personal charisma and the art of the deal. Instead, he is seen as the leader of a company that has lost \$20 billion in the first nine months of this year alone, as its stock price has dropped into the low single-digits from more than \$30 a share a year ago.

The company’s cash cushion is shrinking so fast — by more than \$2 billion a month — that it has said federal help is needed to keep it from running out of sufficient cash for its operations by the end of the year.

Wagoner has said that despite its perilous financial condition, GM has

no plans to file for bankruptcy, or even prepare for the possibility that it may need to seek Chapter 11 protection. But that is the clear threat.

“GM is the biggest of the three, and it’s in the worst shape,” said John Casesa, principal in the auto consulting firm Casesa Shapiro Group. “I think it would be a pretty big blow to Rick if they don’t get the money.”

The debate on Capitol Hill will focus on whether the Detroit automakers can get \$25 billion in aid immediately from either the Treasury Department’s \$700 billion financial rescue program, or from an existing loan program aimed at improving the fuel-efficiency of Big Three vehicles.

Ford and Chrysler, however, have not made the same dire predictions about their businesses — putting the urgency of the bailout squarely on the shoulders of Wagoner and GM.

WEATHER

Prepare for a Deep Freeze

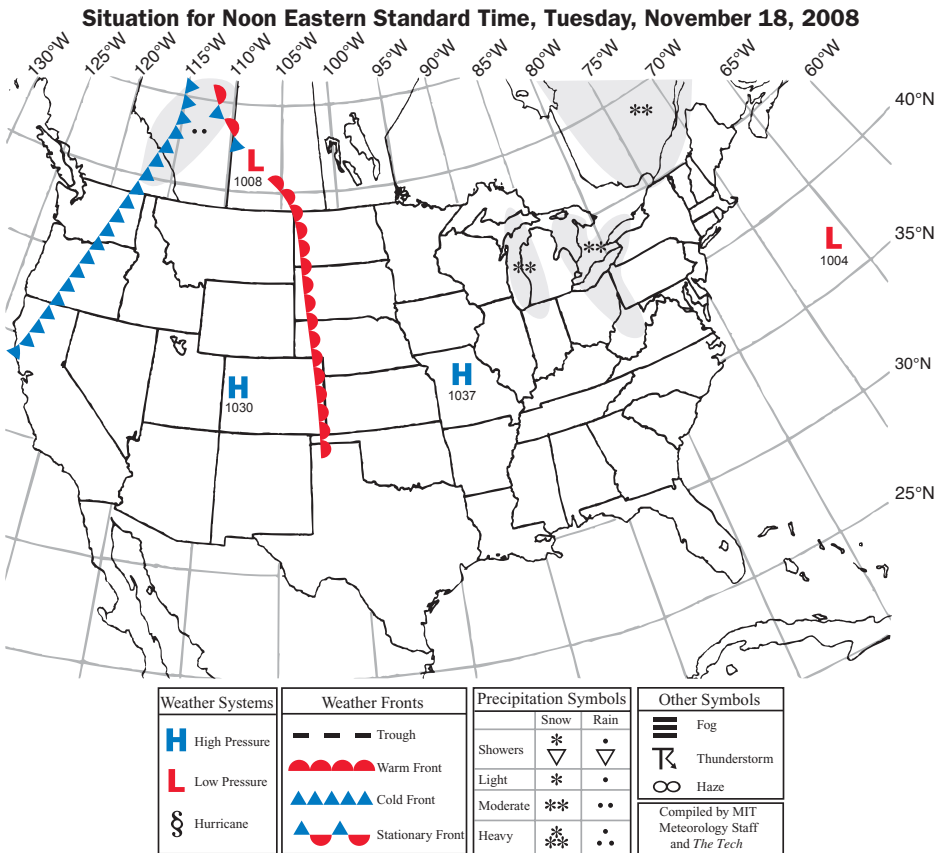
By Angela Zalucha
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

High temperatures this week will struggle to get to 40°F, as a cold pattern dominates our weather this week. Lows will reach the mid 20s°F. While these temperatures are 10 degrees below normal, perhaps “deep freeze” is too strong a word, since in February we will look upon this month and remember how warm it was. Luckily (unluckily for snow sports enthusiasts), no snow is forecasted for this week.

When selecting how to dress warmly for the winter, not all clothes are created equal. Cotton for instance retains moisture and keeps your skin wet, making you feel even colder if you are sweating (say from trudging through snow) or caught in the rain. Wool is a better choice as a natural insulator. Synthetic materials, such as polyester fleece, can be manufactured for warmth and moisture retaining qualities (or lack thereof). Even nylon pantyhose or tights make a surprisingly good insulating layer when worn under jeans. In addition to layers of insulation, one should also wear an outer shell of wind-proof and waterproof material to make the insulating layers work.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy. High 39°F (4°C).
Tonight: Clear. Low 29°F (-2°C).
Tomorrow: Sunny. High 39°F (4°C).
Tomorrow night: Partly cloudy. Low 25°F (-4°C).
Thursday: Partly sunny. High 42°F (6°C).
Thursday night: Partly cloudy. Low 28°F (-2°C).
Friday: Partly sunny. High 41°F (5°C).



Firefighters Get Edge on Wildfires as Wind Eases

By Jennifer Steinhauer
THE NEW YORK TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Firefighters gained the upper hand against three blazes raging over a 130-mile stretch of Southern California on Monday, as scores of residents picked over the charred remains of their homes and state officials took a new look at how to prevent a recurrence of the destruction.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger called for a review of building standards for manufactured homes after nearly 500 of them went up in flames in the Oakridge Mobile Home Park in the San Fernando Valley over the weekend and the remaining 100 or so in the park were left badly damaged. Schwarzenegger also called for hospitals to examine their generators

after the backup power system failed at a hospital in the center of that fire, north of downtown Los Angeles.

A calming of the Santa Ana winds — which helped propel the three vicious fires that over the course of several days consumed roughly 40,000 acres and hundreds of homes and sent five counties into states of emergency — helped firefighters who were laboring mightily. In Santa Barbara County, a fire that quickly consumed scores of luxury homes last week was almost completely under control.

In the San Fernando Valley, fires were roughly 40 percent contained. In an area south of Los Angeles, fires smoldering across two counties were also about 40 percent controlled.

In all, more than 30 people were

injured in the fires, three seriously, with burns and smoke inhalation.

Smoke and ash blanketed much of Los Angeles County, with schools in some areas closed and outdoor activities curtailed because of the poor air quality.

Officials in the counties hit by fires said the causes were under investigation, though the Santa Barbara County fire was initially believed to be caused by people.

While California has adopted regulations that require ignition-resistant construction materials and roofing for manufactured residences outside mobile home parks, officials said Monday that the Schwarzenegger administration would seek to tighten those regulations for homes within them.

Al-Maliki Dismisses Fraud Monitors in Secret Moves

By James Glanz
and Riyadh Mohammed
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

The government of Prime Minister Nouri Kamal al-Maliki is systematically dismissing Iraqi oversight officials, who were installed to fight corruption in Iraqi ministries by order of the American occupation administration, which had hoped to bring Western standards of accountability to the notoriously opaque and graft-ridden bureaucracy here.

The dismissals, which were confirmed by senior Iraqi and American government officials on Sunday and Monday, came as estimates of official Iraqi corruption soared. One Iraqi

former chief investigator recently testified before Congress that \$13 billion in reconstruction funds from the United States had been lost to fraud, embezzlement, theft and waste by Iraqi government officials.

The moves have not been publicly announced by al-Maliki's government, but word of them has begun to circulate through the layers of Iraqi bureaucracy as parliament prepares to vote on a long-awaited security agreement.

That pact sets the terms for continued American presence here after the U.N. mandate expires Dec. 31, but also amounts to a framework for a steady reduction in that presence. Such a change will undoubtedly lessen American oversight of Iraqi institu-

tions.

While some Iraqi officials defended the dismissals, saying there had been no political motivation, others pointed to the secrecy involved as supporting their view that those removed had lost their posts without good cause.

Each of Iraq's 30 Cabinet-level ministries has one inspector general. These oversight officials are supported by varying budgets and staffing.

Although some of the inspectors general have been notably quiet, others have investigated both current and former ministers and other senior officials vigorously, and the top echelons of Iraqi officialdom have found ample reason to fear them.

Rule to Protect Health Workers Draws Protests

By Robert Pear
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

A last-minute Bush administration plan to grant sweeping new protections to health care providers who oppose abortion and other procedures on religious or moral grounds has provoked a torrent of objections, including a strenuous protest from the government agency that enforces job-discrimination laws.

The proposed rule would prohibit recipients of federal money from discriminating against doctors, nurses and other health care workers who refuse to perform or to assist in the performance of abortions or sterilization procedures because of their "religious beliefs or moral convictions."

It would also prevent hospitals, clinics, doctors' offices and drug-stores from requiring employees with religious or moral objections to "assist in the performance of any part of a health service program or research activity" financed by the Department of Health and Human Services.

But three officials from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, including its legal counsel, whom President Bush appointed, said the proposal would overturn 40 years of civil rights law prohibiting job discrimination based on religion.

Report Says Pollution Has Levelled Off, But the Figures Have Holes

By Elisabeth Rosenthal
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Emissions from industrialized countries plateaued in 2006 after six years of growth, the United Nations said Monday. But the countries have not yet reported emissions from the past two years, and the new report did not include large emerging economies like those of India and China.

The U.N. report was released two weeks before the world's environmental ministers are to meet in Poland to discuss ways to curb greenhouse gases and against the backdrop of the global financial crisis.

In presenting the latest findings, U.N. officials said they were concerned that the economic downturn would add a new layer of uncertainty to the coming talks, because many of the programs under development to curb the emissions that cause global warming require credit and financing.

While they expressed some optimism about the new data, which went through 2006, the last year available, they said the slight decline — one-tenth of 1 percent from 2005 to 2006 — was too small to indicate a significant downward trend.

Overall, among the 40 industrialized countries that reported to the United Nations, emissions had increased by 2.5 percent from 2000 to 2006, leading the climate panel to denounce what it called "continued growth."

Amgen-UROP Scholars Program

Undergraduate Research in the Sciences and Biotechnology, Summer 2009

Applications are now being accepted for the **2009 Amgen-UROP Scholars Program**.

Up to 26 students (approximately half from MIT) will be selected to conduct research in MIT laboratories, take part in networking and educational activities, and attend a mid-summer research symposium at UCLA. Participants receive competitive research pay, on-campus housing, and a food allowance.

Applications are due by February 2, 2009. For complete information on eligibility requirements and to access the online application, visit mit.edu/urop/amgenscholars.

The Amgen-UROP Scholars Program is managed by the **Office of Undergraduate Advising and Academic Programming (UAAP)**, and is funded by a grant provided by the **Amgen Foundation**.

For more information, contact UAAP staff at amgenscholars@mit.edu, or (617) 253-7306.

For details on Amgen Scholars Programs offered at other U.S. universities, visit <http://www.amgenscholars.com>.

mit.edu/urop/amgenscholars

OPINION

A Critical Junction

Nuclear Power Faces an Uncertain Future Under an Obama Administration

Keith Yost

Illinois produces more megawatts of nuclear power than any other state in the union, accounting for nearly 12 percent of the national total, and Barack Obama, the junior senator from the land of Lincoln, has had a very cosy relationship with the state's nuclear industry over the years. The employees of the Exelon Corporation, the largest operator of commercial nuclear power plants in the U.S., have donated at least \$300,000 to Obama since 2003, and for his part, Obama has danced with those who bring him.

In 2005, when his constituents were outraged to find that Exelon had leaked millions of gallons of radioactive tritium and not informed the public, the young senator took up their outrage, and with much fire and brimstone, proposed the Nuclear Release Notice Act of 2006, a bill that would have made it mandatory for nuclear reactors to disclose to the public when such radioactive releases occur. During the Iowa primaries, he boasted of this legislative success, calling it "the only nuclear legislation I've passed." In reality, the legislation never passed. The bill had Obama's full-throated support ... until he re-wrote the bill, pulled the hard talk of mandated reporting, and then watched this watered-down version die in the Senate.

Maybe Obama simply saw the light — after all, the tritium leakage was never a serious threat to public health — or maybe there was something more. David Axelrod, Obama's chief political strategist, was a consultant for Exelon as recently as 2002, and the \$3 million "overhead projector" earmark that McCain derided in the debates was destined to the Adler Planetarium, whose chairman at the time was one Frank Clark, chief executive of an Exelon-owned utility, ComEd.

When Obama stepped onto the national stage, stories like these would have been an

uncomfortable liability with the hard environmental left of his party, and so the young senator tempered his view of nuclear power — specifically by adding ambiguity. On the stump, he was careful to stick to his new and improved view, namely that he supported nuclear power so long as it was "safe and clean."

What a fantastic caveat, both indisputably sensible and conveniently elastic. Surely no one could support "dangerous and dirty" nuclear power. But Obama's new line on nuclear power begs the question: How safe is safe? How clean is clean?

To quote General Electric, it is "11 times more likely for the largest asteroid near the earth to impact the earth over the next 100 years than for an [Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor] operational event to result in the release of fission products to the environment." Sounds pretty safe!

Current standards for Yucca Mountain mandate that over the next one million years, the expected increase to annual radioactive dose received by any nearby population must be reliably under 100 millirem. Roughly speaking, this is less than the increase in dose one would receive by living in Colorado instead of Ohio. Sounds pretty clean!

Surely given these findings and Obama's quixotic goal of slashing carbon emissions by 80 percent by 2050, he'd do nothing to stand in the way of the United States' brightest hope of curbing global warming, right?

If only. Unfortunately, the president-elect's days of threading the needle between the fringe left that rabidly opposes nuclear power and the 74 percent of Americans who support it might not be over. In trying to pass his sweeping agenda, Obama will have to work closely with the Senate majority leader and zealous nuclear opponent, Harry Reid. As the price of his goodwill and party loyalty, Reid is sure to demand that Obama torpedo any plans for expanding nuclear power, and this problem will arrive at Obama's doorstep sooner rather

than later.

The Democratic filibustering that has left significant holes on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Currently the five-member board that heads the regulatory agency is made up of four commissioners: Peter Lyons, Greg Jaczko, Kristine Svinicki, and Chairman Dale Klein. Jaczko, the former science advisor to Senator Reid, is the sole Democrat on the board, but he won't be lonely for long; besides filling the empty seat on the commission, Obama will get to appoint someone to replace Lyons, whose term ends in June 2009, and probably Chairman Klein as well, since Klein has quietly expressed a desire to resign rather than serve under an Obama administration.

In either case, Democrats will soon be a majority on the commission, and unless Obama pushes to the contrary, Jaczko, the hatchet man of Nevada's Harry Reid, will be the new chairman of a government agency that has a near unlimited mandate to regulate the nuclear industry. The timing could not be worse: currently 34 new reactors are planning to file applications with the NRC between now and 2010. Simply by stonewalling these applications for a few years, Jaczko and Reid could drastically alter the prospects of a nuclear power renaissance ... and a simple stonewalling is the least of their weapons.

Thus, within six months of taking office, Obama will be faced with an unpalatable option: Either let the nascent dreams of nuclear engineers be strangled in their cradle by a special interest lobby, or put his entire legislative agenda at risk by standing up for clean power. In doing so, Obama will be making the first of many moves that will define his presidency. During the closing weeks of the campaign, Republicans warned of the risks in letting an inexperienced, undefined junior senator take the reins of an unchecked government majority — with bated breath nuclear power will wait to see if the warnings were right.



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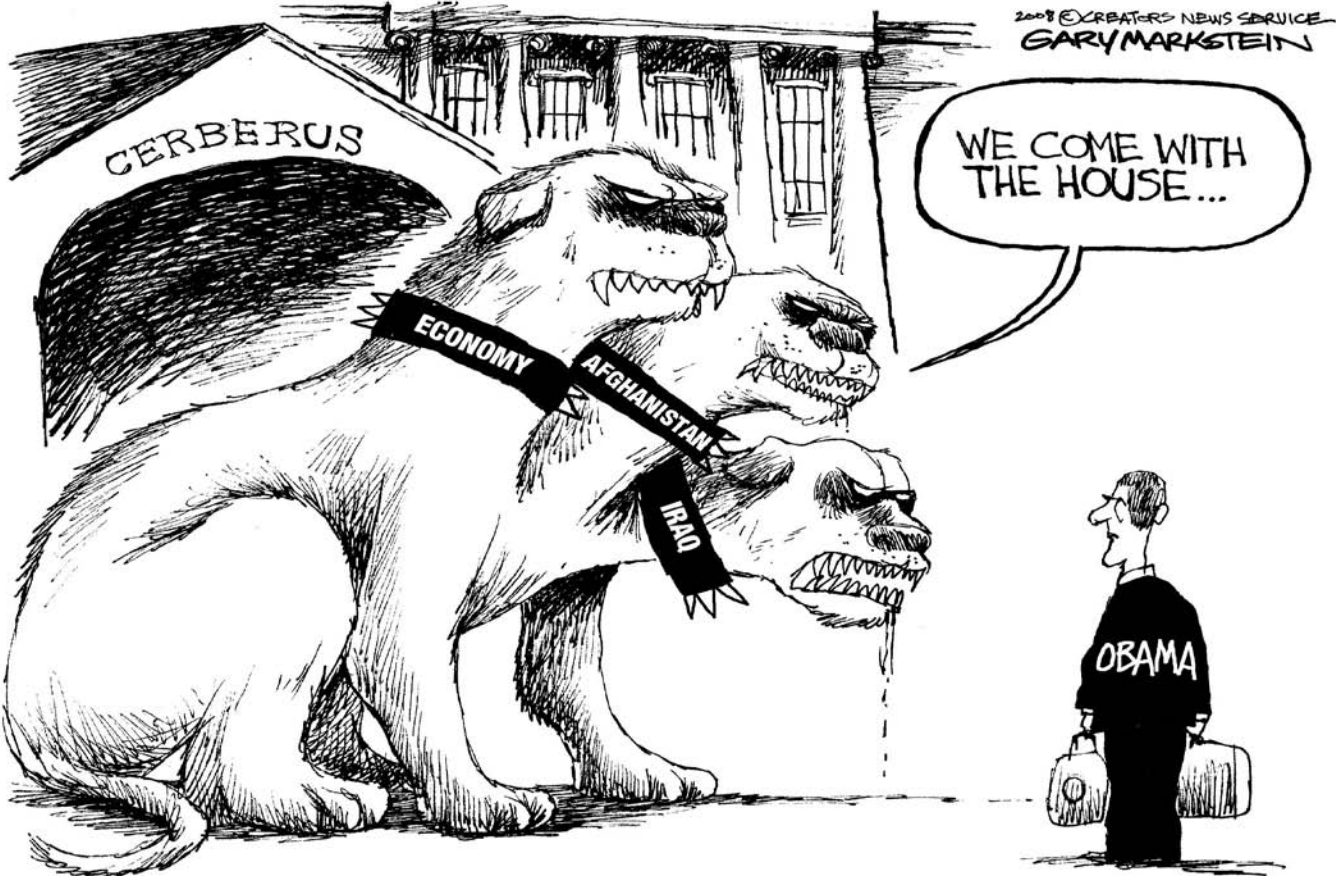
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CAMPUS LIFE

Ramblings from Hell

People Are Just People

By S. Campbell Proehl
STAFF COLUMNIST

Sometimes when I get bored, or when I feel like I'm in a slump, I re-read comics, articles, or stories that have made me smile. There is one comic in particular, from the PhD series, that I read every time someone asks me to check over an important e-mail they have written. It says "Average Time Spent Composing One E-mail ..."

The first square says 1.3 seconds and it shows a professor writing responses like "No.", "Yes.", "Sure.", "Do it." The second has a graduate student biting his nails, agonizing over every word of a very long, very polite e-mail for a period of 1.3 days.

Hysterical, but also incongruously disturbing. Professors are just people. Why do students agonize so much over what they write? And for that matter, why do people agonize over interviewing with or writing to any person who might have some control over their future?

What I'm about to say is not earth-shatteringly profound, but it is a useful fact: seem-

ingly important people are just people.

I learned this during my senior year of high school during my interview for Georgetown University. Georgetown was actually my first-choice school, and I applied early action, hoping that I could get accepted in January and be done with the long and torturous college admissions process. I had an interview in mid-November with a lawyer alumna who lived about five minutes away from me. She scheduled the interview for 9 a.m. on a Sunday, and like a good student, I arrived at her house wide-awake and nervous at 8:55 a.m. and rang the doorbell.

After the first ring, nobody answered. I waited 20 seconds and then rang it again. Still nobody. After the third ring, a man (who I presume was the woman's husband) answered the door in a forest green bathrobe that revealed a good amount of his chest hair.

He saw me dressed up and standing in high heels at his door and woke up his wife, who came down in her pajamas and fed their baby

while conducting a grueling question session that convinced me I was not going to get into Georgetown (I didn't). But what I learned was that even though this woman had at least some say in whether or not I would get into Georgetown, she was just a person who occasionally overslept just like the rest of us.

My mother confirmed this for me a week ago, the day before my first medical school interview. She called to wish me good luck, and to tell me a story. About 10 years ago, my father had to fly out to California to deliver some bad news to some people in his company. My mother said she imagined these people with butterflies in their stomachs, waiting for my father to go out there, while she was yelling at him for leaving a mess in the midst

of his packing. The moral of the story was that here were these people,

terrified at the thought of seeing my dad, and yet he had someone at home yelling at him to pick up his dirty socks. "So don't think that anyone is above you, Sarah," she told me before the interview, "Everyone has someone at home telling them to clean up their mess. They're all just people

like you."

I guess my point is that there is no reason to fear people, or to fret over how powerful or important they are, or to be humbled by the thought of how ground-breaking their research is. Because the truth of the matter is that they're just people, and at one point or another, someone probably yelled at them to clean up their mess.

What I'm about to say is not earth-shatteringly profound, but it is a useful fact: seemingly important people are just people.

Brouhaha Rhythm

The Bird, the Plane, and the Underdog

By Michael Lin
STAFF COLUMNIST

Being a geek is what I do. Some people are bank robbers, some people are geese-jugglers — I'm a geek. As you might imagine, around here, I am but one of the many, which makes for heated, mostly-intellectual discussion about subjects that normal people would consider beneath their consideration. Those pretentious normal people. Bah.

Out of the 31 flavors of geek available for assimilation, "comic book movie connoisseur" easily falls in the top five most responsible for debates verging on throw-downs. Don't get me wrong, *The Dark Knight* is genuinely high-quality cinema, but I felt like a couple of the ethical dilemmas presented in it, though pathologically interesting, were simply crow-barred in so the editor would have something to intercut with the fight scenes. Of course, as any fan of double-bladed lightsaber fight sequences realizes, splicing mediocrity with awesomeness doesn't make the mediocrity any more palat-

able and only fosters the desire to remove the mediocrity and post the awesomeness by itself on YouTube.

My bias against Batman is significant — Batman gets seven live-action movies, six television series (with a seventh on the way), 20 video games, and all Green Arrow gets are cameos and supporting roles? The Emerald Archer demands justice! (Pause for irony. Pause over.)

Those of you who keep up with Green Arrow movie news should know that there is a Green Arrow movie in the works, which would ordinarily send me into fits of childish giggling. Considering the fact that Green Arrow is being dropped into the main hero role rather than having the hero role being written for him, the fetal position will

have to wait. Phooey. Granted, the story sounds much more promising than most comic book films (even if Halle Berry's incarnation of *Cat-woman* makes for compelling Halloween fodder), and should do much to popularize second string villains as well as heroes, but there's only one way to find out how it goes.

I imagine it may have become abundantly clear at this juncture that a person can care too much about things like comic book movies, even compared to other geeks. Fortunately, one of the benefits of living across the river from the capital of Red Sox nation is that when standing side-by-side with even the average sports fan, I'd have to build a fully-operational freeze ray and get adamantium claws surgically implanted into my forearm before I could begin

I imagine it may have become abundantly clear at this juncture that a person can care too much about things like comic book movies.

Talk Nerdy to Me

For the Love of Kegels

By Christine Yu
STAFF COLUMNIST

The first time I had ever heard about kegels was from my Kotex panty liner.

I was the victim of shameless advertising. Kotex printed these "Tips for Life" on the peel-off strips of their product. Now, I usually don't take advice from my pads — I really don't want to hear any advice when I'm menstruating. One time, they mentioned drinking eight cups of water to feel fresh; well, they needed to remember that they were telling it to women who felt bloated. This time, when it mentioned kegels, a word that was not in my vocabulary, I was curious. I probably thought that I'd need it for the SATs.

Whatever the reason, it sparked my interest in kegels. Although, I can't remember exactly how the advice was worded, I know that it connected the term with pregnancy. Upon further research, I discovered that most women associate kegels with tightness — especially, when they're most concerned about this issue, post-pregnancy. There are many misconceptions about kegels, from the benefits to the execution.

So, what exactly are kegels? Well, they're exercises to workout your pubococcygeus (PC) muscles. Contrary to

What exactly are kegels? Well, they're exercises to workout your pubococcygeus muscles. Contrary to popular belief, kegels are not just for women.

popular belief, kegels are not just for women. Men can do them also. In both genders, the PC muscle controls urine flow and contracts during an orgasm. For men, this muscle controls the hardness of the penis during erection and shooting power. Thus, men gain just as many benefits from doing these workouts — not only can they make themselves harder, but they can make themselves last longer. For women, kegels can help reach vaginal orgasm, ease childbirth, and enhance "tightness." By doing these exercises, you gain a better understanding of your body during sex, which enhances the experience. Suffice it to say, kegels are not just for your partner — they make sex better for both of you.

Unlike regular exercise, you can do kegels anywhere, anytime, without anyone even knowing. (Yes, that means you can do it during lectures and recitations, if that floats your boat.) Before being able to do kegels, you must locate the PC muscle. Unlike the clitoris, I can't direct you to a diagram. The easiest way to find this muscle is to try to stop your urine flow in the bathroom. If you can, then you've learned the basic move. Do not continue to stop and start urine flow. Kegels on a full bladder is like exercising on a full stomach. It's a disaster waiting to happen. Not only can it actually weaken the muscles, it can also increase the chance of urinary tract infections.

For women, the alternative method to find this muscle is fingering yourself while squeezing the surrounding muscles. Once you feel your vagina tighten around

your finger, you've found the muscle.

Once you've found the muscle, the exercise is simple. Relax. Contract the PC muscle. Hold the contraction for about three seconds — gradually increasing the time after each session up to a maximum of 10 seconds. Then, repeat 10 times. There should be no hurry to maximize sessions — you don't want to overwork this muscle. There are other more complicated methods, even involving special sex toys that you can look up. With kegels, you can't expect instant results, however, you can expect some results within 12 weeks. In the end, you're investing only a few minutes a day; don't you wish regular exercise were that easy?

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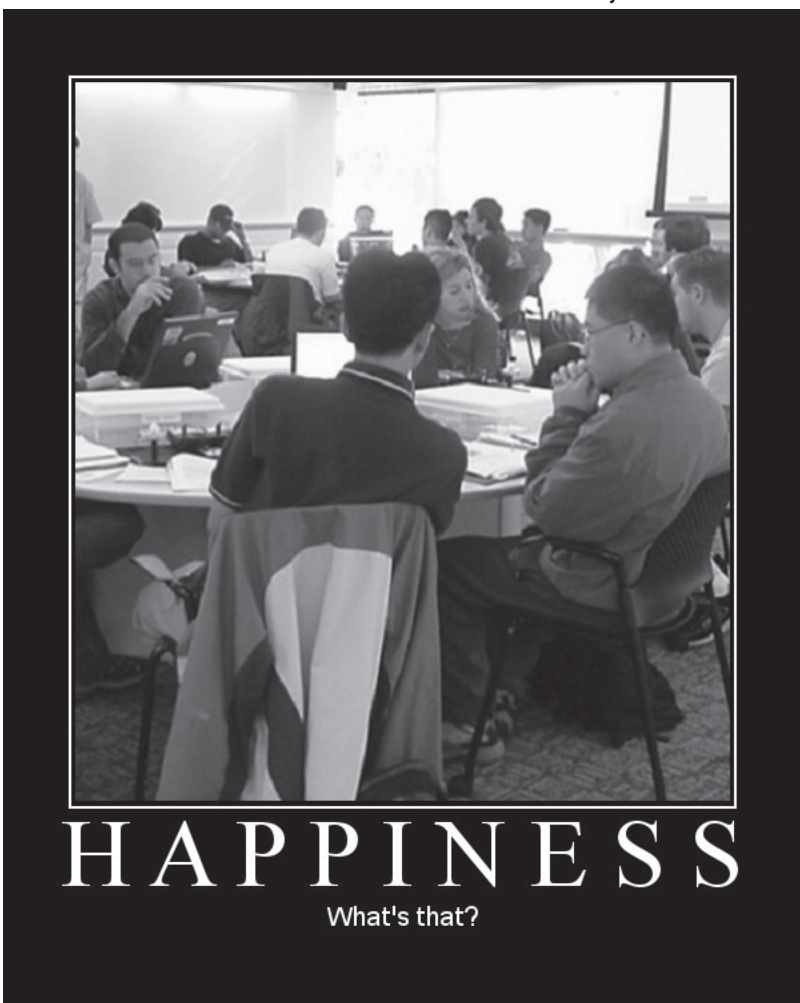
Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



The Daily Blunderbuss

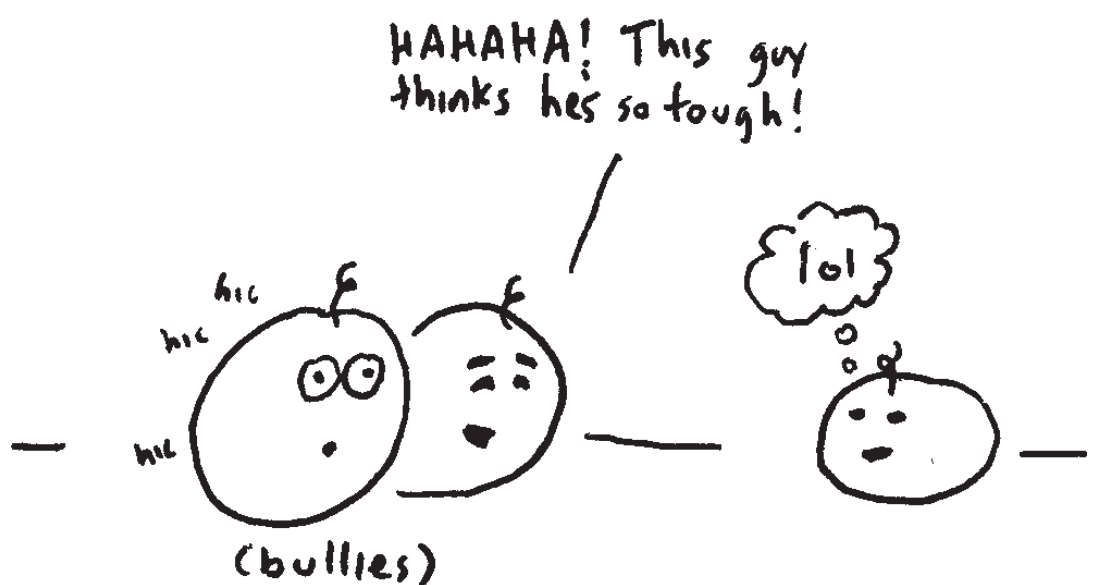
by Ben Peters



Blobbles

by Jason Chan

What an awful time
to get hiccups



Thanks to Carl West for today's caption.
Want to see your caption in Blobbles? Send it to
blobbles@tech.mit.edu and I'll draw a cartoon for it!

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 12

ACROSS

- 1 Pull out a Peacemaker
- 5 Stirs in
- 9 Fruit pressed for oil
- 14 Hoarfrost
- 15 Force into a corner
- 16 Traffic diverters
- 17 Old Nick's knack
- 18 Threw with effort
- 19 Makes reference to
- 20 See what I mean?
- 23 Hog housing
- 24 Precisely defined quantity
- 25 Verdi works
- 28 Actor Arkin
- 29 Attempt
- 30 Tumbler rim
- 31 Ghana's capital
- 34 Public transport
- 35 Feline rumble
- 36 How dare you!

40 Intentions

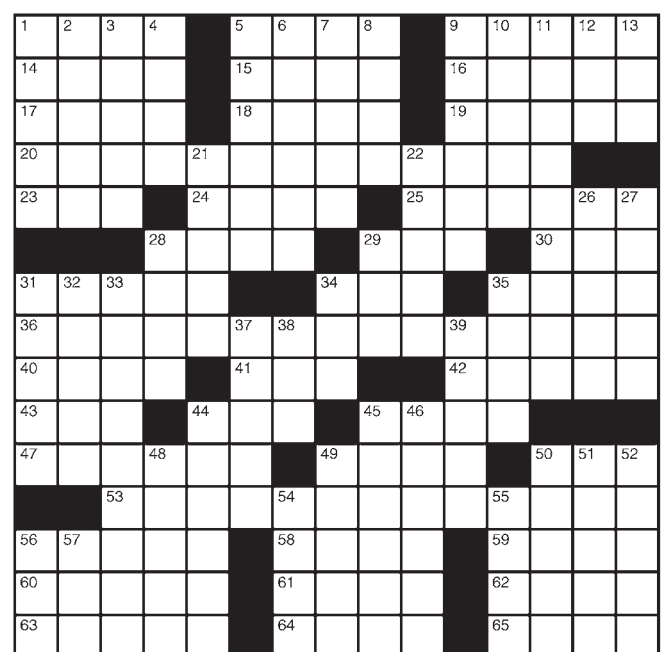
- 41 Cry's partner?
- 42 Covered in marsh grass
- 43 ___ gotcha now!
- 44 Game counter
- 45 Clod busters
- 47 Bank employee
- 49 Brass element
- 50 Mooncalf
- 53 What about this?
- 56 Cops' regular routes
- 58 City in Ohio or Peru
- 59 Wolf's shelter
- 60 Mexican pal
- 61 Persia, today
- 62 One of a sailing trio
- 63 Second largest Great Lake
- 64 Patch up
- 65 In a fresh way

DOWN

- 1 Bottom-of-the-barrel stuff
- 2 Metal fastener
- 3 Friendliness
- 4 Lash imprint
- 5 Greek goddess of wisdom
- 6 Visit informally
- 7 Lifeboat holder
- 8 On ___ (without guarantee)
- 9 Fill up
- 10 Saint-Nazaire's river
- 11 Break in the action
- 12 Two-finger sign
- 13 Slalom starter?
- 21 Luau dances
- 22 Body trunks
- 26 Made public
- 27 Atomizer output
- 28 Word after liberal

or martial

- 29 Wide, clumsy boat
- 31 Be in store for
- 32 Onion-like herb
- 33 Dromedary fur fabric
- 34 Quilters' gathering
- 35 Pastry items
- 37 In that place
- 38 Tight embrace
- 39 ___-Roman wrestling
- 44 Individual
- 45 Hired gun
- 46 Available
- 48 Relinquish
- 49 Voltaire drama
- 50 Once more
- 51 Polish up
- 52 Barn bedding
- 54 Singer Whitman
- 55 Forearm bone
- 56 Harrumph!
- 57 Ostrichlike bird



Doonesbury
BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Bonus Crossword
Solution, page 14

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20				21						22				
23								24				25		26
27				28	29	30	31		32		33			
			34					35			36			
		37	38						39	40				
41							42							
43				44	45		46					47	48	49
50				51		52				53	54			
	55		56				57	58	59					
60					61					62				
63					64					65				
66					67					68				

- ACROSS
- 1 Eurasian vipers

5 First vice president

10 __ Nui (Easter Island)

14 Grub

15 Sauna wear

16 Pitcher Hershiser

17 Barrett or Jaffe

18 Create big hair

19 Old Atlanta arena

20 So-so sailor?

23 Minutes taker, perhaps

24 From 1/1/06 'til now

25 Sumo surface

27 Russ. or Lith., once

28 Steakhouse specification

32 Tranquil

34 Mississippi city

36 Poker payment

37 So-so perps?

41 Binary digits

42 Queen of mysteries

43 Lists of candidates

46 Salty drop

47 Posed

50 Startled response

51 Old DJ's stack

53 Horse opera

55 So-so nicety?

60 Gumbo veggie

61 Silver Ghost, briefly

62 Piccadilly Circus statue

63 Get the better of

64 Sports transaction

65 Back-to-school mo.

66 Concept in Caen

67 Waste conduit

68 Hurl
- DOWN
- 1 On the other side of

2 Bermudas, e.g.

3 Consider

4 Young shepherd

5 __ boy!

6 Active one

7 Not at home

8 Disorderly

9 Falls as ice

10 Chamber

11 Preparation for war

12 Triangular flags

13 Rope-a-dope poet

21 Water wheel

22 Sidewalk stand offering

26 NFL prop

29 That's __ folks!

30 Wine choice

31 Rejoice

33 Risque

34 Boom's counterpart

35 Man or Capri

37 Revealed, as a mystery

38 Pipefish's cousin

39 Soup type

40 Wrong call

41 Spanish bear

44 Shade tree

45 ESPN element

47 Old sound system

48 "__ Fables"

49 Secret meetings

52 Sleep soundly?

54 Banned big bang

56 Aussie's amigo

57 Talon

58 Ye __ Shoppe

59 Kind of friendly?

60 Kimono sash

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Solution on page 10.

	3		6		1			
			3					8
		7		5		6		
8							3	1
		2				7		
7	9							5
		5		8		9		
9					4			
			9		2		4	

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ANDREA SHUM—THE TECH



RACHEL FONG—THE TECH



ANDREW SHUM—THE TECH



MENG HENG TOUCH

MENG HENG TOUCH

(clockwise from top right)

Dylan J. Sherry '12 plays a dreamy opening solo in “Goodbye Pork Pie Hat” during the MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble concert entitled “The Innovators” on Friday, Nov. 14.

Barry M. Kudrowitz G of the band Supa Dupa performs for the Benefit Concert for Malaria in Wong Auditorium on Sunday, Nov. 16. All proceeds from the concert will be donated to the Against Malaria Foundation.

Arin S. Rogers '11 shows off his talent for improvisation during a passionate saxophone solo at the MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble on Friday.

MITSOLite, a chamber orchestra taken from current members of MIT Symphony Orchestra, presents works from the Baroque, Classical, and modern eras on Friday.

Jacob A. Strauss G performs a solo from the song “Suite of Old American Dances” during the Concert Band performance for the MIT Fall Concert series.



Study Abroad Flourishes; China Attracts More American Students

By Tamar Lewin
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Record numbers of American students are studying abroad, with especially strong growth in educational exchanges with China, the annual report by the Institute on International Education found.

The number of Americans studying in China increased by 25 percent, and the number of Chinese students studying at American universities increased by 20 percent last year, according to the report, "Open Doors 2008."

"Interest in China is growing dramatically, and I think we'll see even sharper increases in next year's report," said Allan E. Goodman, president of the institute. "People used to go to China to study the history and language, and many still do, but with China looming so large in all our futures, there's been a real shift, and more students go for an understanding of what's happening economically and politically."

While the traditional study-abroad sites for Americans — Britain, Italy, Spain and France — still attract more students from the United States, the report found that China is now the fifth-most-popular destination.

In the 2006-7 academic year, the latest for which figures are available, 11,064 Americans studied in China, a large jump from 1995-96, when only 1,396 Americans studied there.

After the summer Olympics, interest in China is still growing rapidly. This year, 218 students applied for money to study in China from Gilman International Scholarships offered by the State Department, compared with 114 applications for the 2006-7 academic year.

And applications to programs like the Inter-University Program for Chinese Language Studies, a consortium of 13 American universities, have skyrocketed.

"When I took over as executive director in 2000, we accepted about 97 percent of the students who applied, but now we can only take about one in three," said Tom Gold, a profes-

sor at the University of California, Berkeley, who runs the program.

Many universities are hard-pressed to keep up with the interest in China. Syracuse, for example, usually has a limit of 60 students a semester in its Hong Kong program, but because of strong demand expanded to 65 for the spring semester.

At Syracuse, one China program was not enough: in 2006 it started a Beijing program, taught in English, in collaboration with Tsinghua University, which will have about 15 students this spring. SUNY Oswego, meanwhile, has gone from one small exchange program in Beijing to seven partner destinations throughout China, including Hangzhou and Shanghai — and two faculty-led short-term programs in China, one on business and the other on Chinese culture.

"These days, nobody questions why you take Chinese and go to China," said Vanessa Folkerts, a junior at Princeton who began studying Chinese as a freshman, and has spent two summers in intensive language study in Beijing. "It has its obvious uses. I know a lot of people get interested because China's a rising economic power, but for me, it was mainly a linguistic interest."

There are now hundreds of study-abroad programs in China. While most include some language study, some focus on martial arts, herbal medicine, culture, history or business.

Over all, 241,791 Americans studied abroad in 2006-7, the report said, with sharp increases in the numbers going to Argentina, South Africa, Ecuador and India, and declining numbers going to Australia and Costa Rica.

Last year, the report said, 623,805 students from around the world studied in the United States, 61 percent of them from Asia. Business and management and engineering remain the most popular fields of study.

As in previous years, the University of Southern California had the

most international students, 7,189, followed by New York University and Columbia.

In a separate report on graduate school enrollment, released last week, the Council of Graduate Schools found that total international graduate enrollment increased 3 percent this fall, after rising 7 percent last year. The number of new international graduate students rose 3 percent as well, less than the 4 percent growth last year, or the 12 percent in 2006.

The number of new graduate students from India declined this year, after an 8 percent increase last year, the report found, but Chinese enrollment stayed strong, with first-year enrollments up 14 percent.

News Briefs, Continued

News Briefs, from Page 1

Guantanamo Bay.

Siddiqui was transferred to a facility in Texas on Oct. 2 for the purpose of performing the mental evaluation.

—John A. Hawkinson

ASA Elects Officers, De-recognizes Groups, Eases New Group Recognition

The Association of Student Activities' General Body elected two students to fill vacant board positions last night.

Leonid Chindelevitch '11 became the graduate member-at-large and Dylon R. Rockwell '11 became student member-at-large. Chindelevitch ran unopposed, while Rockwell ran against Katherine L. Ray '10 and Quentin Smith '10.


At the meeting, the ASA General Body voted to de-recognize about 60 dormant groups that had not responded to repeated e-mail messages or sent representatives to the meeting.

The ASA also voted to revise its operating guidelines in a move intended to make the recognition of new groups easier and lower some of the barriers to recognition.



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Traders@MIT hosted an intercollegiate trading competition in the Stata Center on Nov. 15. Participants from MIT, Harvard University, Dartmouth College, Princeton University, Columbia University, and Wellesley College worked in teams of two to buy and sell securities in hopes of winning a trip to the Rotman International Trading Competition in Toronto and a trip to the J.P. Morgan trading floor.




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Media Companies Donate Space, Time for One Laptop Per Child Ads

By Steve Lohr
THE NEW YORK TIMES

After a rocky beginning, the non-profit group One Laptop Per Child thinks an advertising campaign will give a lift to the organization's effort to place low-cost laptops in the hands of children in developing nations.

About 500,000 of the group's light and rugged machines are being used in 31 countries, including Peru, Uruguay, Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, Cambodia, Ethiopia, and Rwanda. But the cost of the laptops, at less than \$200 each, has been prohibitively high for many countries, and the number of laptops distributed has fallen short of early projections.

An additional 500,000 of these XO laptops are in transit or being built, and should be in use by early next year, said Nicholas P. Negroponte '66, chairman of the education and computing project.

The marketing campaign seeks to sharply increase those numbers. Television time, billboard space and

magazine pages are being donated by media companies, including the News Corp., CBS and Time Warner.

The goal, Negroponte says, is greatly increasing the donation program, "Give a Laptop. Get a Laptop. Change the World." For \$399, a person can donate an XO laptop and also receive one. Or donors can simply donate \$199, to give a child a laptop, at www.amazon.com/xo.

The advertising time is donated, and the spots are expected to start conversations. One spot is an uplifting vision of a 7-year-old girl in a South African township, sitting in a dark room, her face lighted only by the laptop's glow. "With education, we will solve our own problems," she says.

Another TV spot says children learn quickly, whatever their tools of survival are — whether loading an AK-47 or mastering an XO laptop. Other settings show child labor camps and child prostitutes. "There are some very challenging scenes,"

said Paul Lavoie, chairman of Taxi, the agency that created the ads.

Other innovative ads are in the works. Negroponte is talking to Yoko Ono about using lifelike digital images of John Lennon in ads discussing the opportunity to end the digital divide between rich and poor nations.

Marketing, Lavoie says, can help One Laptop Per Child move toward its original goal of a \$100 laptop, which is possible only with the economies of high-volume manufacturing. "To get there, they need to sell a lot of computers," he said.

By now, Negroponte insists, enough of these learning machines are in the hands of children in the developing world to see results. The children, from 6 to 12 years old, are more passionate about learning, and educators are reporting fewer problems with discipline and truancy. "It's unequivocally working," said Negroponte, the founding director of the MIT Media Lab. "The issue is the economics."

Wage, Budget Freezes Possible as Harvard Looks to Spend Less

By Tracy Jan
THE BOSTON GLOBE

Even the world's richest university is feeling the pinch from the economic downturn.

Harvard's president, Drew Faust, said last week that the university is looking for ways to reduce spending across the campus, raising the specter of cuts to programs and compensation, as Harvard's endowment plummets. It is also assessing all aspects of its sweeping plan to expand across the Charles River in Allston, she said.

"We must recognize that Harvard is not invulnerable to the seismic financial shocks in the larger world," Faust wrote in an e-mail to faculty, staff, and students.

She did not specify what cuts were on the table and declined to be interviewed.

"The letter is the letter," said John Longbrake, university spokesman, who would not elaborate on the implications of Faust's e-mail. "Look, this is a serious situation, and they're planning and looking at things across the board."

A Harvard official familiar with its financial picture said the university is considering imposing a wage freeze for administrators and faculty, as well as a budget freeze on all programs. The Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Harvard's largest faculty, is confronting a loss of roughly \$4.5 billion in the market value of its endowment, which would translate to a net loss of \$225 million from its budget, the official said on condition of anonymity because the plans are not final.

Harvard's move follows a range of belt-tightening at colleges and universities across the country.

Last month, Boston University instituted a hiring freeze and a moratorium on all construction projects that are not already underway. Yesterday, Dartmouth College said it was trimming its budget after its endowment lost \$220 million during the turmoil. The New Hampshire school's endowment had finished the fiscal year at \$3.66 billion. Brown and Cornell also imposed hiring freezes recently.

Harvard's endowment before the economic crisis was \$36.9 billion. The money funded more than a third of the university's annual \$3.5 billion operating budget.

Harvard officials would not say how much the endowment has lost in recent months, but Faust referenced a Moody's projection of a 30 percent decline in the value of college and university endowments this fiscal year. For Harvard, that would mean an \$11 billion loss - that is, about \$550 million in lost income.

Also under review are Harvard's expansion plans in Allston, Faust said. Construction projects that remain the highest priority include a \$1 billion science complex in Allston and a law school addition in Cambridge, and renovations to the Fogg Museum.

Faust's letter laid out other financial challenges that Harvard faces, despite its great wealth.

The university cannot expect continued generous contributions from donors and foundations, she said. The pool of federal grant money for research is also at risk of drying up.

And any increase in tuition, which accounts for 20 percent of the university's revenue, should be kept modest during the tough economy, Faust said. It costs \$47,215, including room and board, to attend Harvard, a 3.5 percent increase from last year.

Amid the financial storm, Faust affirmed Harvard's commitment to recent initiatives to expand financial aid for low- and middle-income families. Students from families making below \$60,000 will still get a free ride, she said. And families making up to \$180,000 per year can expect to pay no more than 10 percent of their income.

Some faculty members said Faust's letter, though sobering, did not come as a surprise.

"This strikes me as a drumbeat getting us ready to think in terms of a slowdown in growth, or even cuts and freezes," said Andrew Gordon, a history professor on Harvard's faculty council.

Michael Smith, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, was unavailable for comment. But he warned faculty and staff yesterday that everyone would be affected in the belt-tightening. The Faculty of Arts and Sciences draws more than half its operating expenses from the endowment.

"Given the prominence of endowment income in our finances, we must consider budgeting scenarios that significantly reduce our annual operating expenses," Smith wrote in an e-mail after Faust's letter.

Wlfrid Schmid, a math professor who also serves on the faculty council, said Faust's reaction to the bleak economy is sensible.

"Nobody has any idea whether this is going to be a replay of the Great Depression," Schmid said in an interview. "Harvard is resilient enough to weather quite a storm, but exactly what this means, we'll have to see. Harvard is still the top university, and we'll do whatever's necessary to stay there."



Ruth Schwartz Cowan, the Janice and Julian Bers Professor of the History and Sociology of Science at the University of Pennsylvania, delivers the 2008 Miller Lecture on Science and Ethics in the Bartos Theater on Nov. 17. The lecture, hosted by the MIT Program in Science, Technology, and Society, was entitled "Climbing up the Slippery Slope: the History of Genetic Screening," and focused on discrediting the link between prenatal genetic testing and eugenics.

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Solution to Sudoku												
from page 7												
5	3	8	6	9	1	2	7	4				
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9	7	1	5	6	4	3	8	2				
6	8	3	9	1	2	5	4	7				

Like Other Schools, MIT Announces Future Budget Cuts

Budget Cuts, from Page 1

referring to the undergraduates in the Phoenix Group, which was established to found the community and organization of W1. Current sophomores in the class of 2011 who would have occupied the dormitory when it was originally scheduled to open in fall 2010 may not have that opportunity. If the project were delayed an additional year, current freshmen might spend their undergraduate career living in the new Ashdown House, NW35.

Projects already contracted and underway at the Sloan School, the Media Lab, Vassar Street, and the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research will continue.

Entirely new building projects are unlikely to appear soon. The proposed Music and Theater Arts Teaching Laboratory, under planning for nearly a decade and tentatively sited at the parking lot at Albany St. and Massachusetts Ave., has now fallen victim to two recessions and will remain a parking lot.

Follow the money

MIT does not know exactly how much money it will lose. The Institute puts a dollar value on the endowment once a year, on June 30, when MIT's fiscal year ends, Kolenbrander said. Illiquid parts of the endowment, like private equities and real estate, represent an "unknowable quantity," he said. But MIT knows the numbers will not be good. Peer universities reported that their endowments had dropped anywhere from 6–30 percent by the end of October.

Cuts are not currently planned for this fiscal year's \$2.3 billion budget. Of that budget, about half will be targeted for cuts next year.

Of the total budget, \$1.2 billion represents "sponsored research," income outside MIT's control, Lerman said. Most sponsored research comes from the federal government so this spending might vastly increase if an economic stimulus package is passed, or it might sharply decrease if the next Congress cuts government spending.

Student life is a budget item and will go down 5 percent like everything else, Lerman said. But the part

that comes from the Student Life Fee will stay the same and will increase periodically as the fee is increased. Among the recipients of Student Life Fee funds: the Student Activities Office, the Graduate Students Office, and the Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation. The Undergraduate Association and Graduate Student Council funding boards are unlikely to be affected.

The Energy Initiative is safe, Lerman said. Most of its funding is external and is not affected by these cuts.

A relatively small amount of the total budget falls in an "enterprise" category, containing services like housing that have their own income streams; dormitory rent pays for house maintenance budgets. Those budgets will not be cut.

The first cut is the deepest

The rest of MIT's budget, "general institute funds" of about \$1 billion, will be cut by 5 percent, about \$50 million for FY10.

"Fifty million dollars is a serious amount of money by any measure," said Kolenbrander. Administrators and department heads will be required next year to submit a budgets showing a 5 percent decrease in general spending.

If groups do manage to underspend their budgets this fiscal year, they can "carry forward" any savings, offsetting the harm of the required 5 percent budget cut. Academic groups are used to "carrying forward" money

from the prior year's budget, but it is a new concept to many administrative groups, whose budgets are generally reset each year.

There "will not be a hiring freeze," Lerman said — MIT will

still hire qualified candidates. But standards may rise, with managers using what Kolenbrander called "careful scrutiny."

MIT will also "look hard at events like the community picnic," Kolenbrander said.

Events will be "a little more modest," Lerman said. "We're not canceling Christmas" this year but his office will hold a less elaborate party. "It's inappropriate to be lavish" in a recession, he said.

Wages won't go down, Kolen-

brander said. But he did not rule out the possibility of salary freezes or changes to employee benefits. "Few things are off the table," he said.

MIT's announcement mirrors others'

In confronting the messy budget implications of the looming recession, MIT is not alone.

Dartmouth College reported first quarter endowment losses of \$220 million, about 6 percent of its value. The college's president planned to freeze external hiring of staff, cut discretionary spending by 5 percent this year, and reduce its budget by 10 percent within two years. "We expect that there will be fewer staff employees at Dartmouth in the coming years," President James Wright said in a letter to the community on Thursday, Nov. 13.

In a letter to Harvard University, its president, Drew Gilpin Faust, cited financial research agency Moody's projection that college endowments would decrease in value by 30 percent over the next year. "Our principal sources of revenue are all likely to be affected by these new economic forces," Faust wrote. "While we can hope that markets will improve, we need to be prepared to absorb unprecedented endowment losses and plan for a period of greater financial constraint."

Faust promised to maintain Harvard's financial aid program: "Families with incomes below \$60,000 will pay nothing to send a child to Harvard College, and families with incomes up to \$180,000 and typical assets can expect to pay no more than approximately 10 percent of income."

Anthony Marx, president of Amherst College, told the school in late October that its endowment had lost a quarter of its value since June 30. He promised to continue need-blind admissions both for domestic and international applications and to continue its policies of funding every student's demonstrated need.

And, like MIT, "though we are not considering a hiring freeze, [Amherst] College will review with greater stringency all requests for replacement or additional positions,"

Marx said.

Stanford University will cut its \$800 million general funds budget by 5 percent in the next fiscal

year, Provost John Etchemendy wrote in the Oct. 29 *Stanford Report*. Stanford will cut its budget by about the same amount next year, he wrote.

'Don't panic'

The present economic situation is "unprecedented, at least in my time," said Lerman. "People who have never been

through" a deep recession may have to adjust to lifestyle changes, he said.

What about the job market? Ler-

man emphasized the "need for a vibrant Career Fair" even as a recession looms. "MIT graduates are still highly sought after," he said.

There will be a "tendency for people to read this and panic," Ler-

man said. "That's exactly the wrong reaction." MIT "is a place that knows how to adapt."

MIT is among many universities who have proposed sharp spending cuts to help survive the looming recession.

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What Has Driven Women Out of Computer Science?

By Randall Stross
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Ellen Spertus '90, a graduate student at MIT, wondered why the computer camp she had attended as a girl had a boy-girl ratio of 6-to-1. And why were only 20 percent of computer science undergraduates at MIT female? She published a 124-page paper, "Why Are There So Few Female Computer Scientists?", that catalogued different cultural biases that discouraged girls and women from pursuing a career in the field. The year was 1991.

Computer science has changed considerably since then. Now, there are even fewer women entering the field. Why this is so remains a matter of dispute.

What's particularly puzzling is that the explanations for under-representation of women that were assembled in 1991 applied to all technical fields.

Yet women have achieved broad parity with men in almost every other technical pursuit. When all science and engineering fields are considered, the percentage of bachelor's degree recipients who are women has improved to 51 percent in 2004-5 from 39 percent in 1984-85, according to National Science Foundation surveys.

When one looks at computer science in particular, however, the proportion of women has been falling. In 2001-2, only 28 percent of all undergraduate degrees in computer science went to women. By 2004-5, the number had declined to 22 percent. Data collected by the Computing Research Association showed even fewer women at research universities like MIT: Women accounted for only 12 percent of undergraduate degrees in computer science and engineering in the United States and Canada granted in 2006-7 by PhD-granting

institutions, down from 19 percent in 2001-2. Many computer science departments report that women now make up less than 10 percent of the newest undergraduates.

In 1998, when Spertus received

Twenty-five years ago, more young women in colleges and universities were drawn to computer science than today.

her PhD in computer science, women received only 14 percent of the doctorates granted in the field. Today, she's an associate professor at Mills College and a research scientist at Google. Her life story supports

the hypothesis of Jane Margolis, co-author of "Unlocking the Clubhouse: Women in Computing," who highlights the ambient ideas in a family that are enormously influential in career decisions.

Last week, Margolis said that "a lot of the girls who were doing computer science came from families of computer scientists and engineers." Her explanation: "It was in the air. There was the expectation that they could do whatever they wanted." Spertus' father was an MIT-trained engineer. She learned programming even before personal computers had arrived, using computer terminals in her house that were connected to a Honeywell mainframe used by the family's business.

Twenty-five years ago, more young women in colleges and universities were drawn to computer science than today. From 1971 to 1983,

incoming freshman women who declared an intention to major in computer science jumped eightfold, to 4 percent from about 0.5 percent.

Jonathan Kane, a professor of mathematics and computer science at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, recalls the mid-1980s, when women made up 40 percent of the students who majored in management computer systems, the second most popular major on campus. But soon after, the number of students majoring in the program had fallen about 75 percent, reflecting a nationwide trend, and the number of women fell even more. "I asked at a department meeting," he says, "'Where have the women gone?' It wasn't clear." His theory is that young women earlier had felt comfortable pursuing the major because the male subculture of action gaming had yet to appear.

Justine Cassell, director of Northwestern University's Center for Technology and Social Behavior, has written about the efforts in the 1990s to create computer games that would appeal to girls and, ultimately, increase the representation of women in computer science. In commenting as a co-contributor in a new book, "Beyond Barbie and Mortal Kombat: New Perspectives on Gender and Gaming," Cassell writes of the failure of these efforts, "The girls game movement failed to dislodge the sense among both boys and girls that computers were 'boys' toys' and that true girls didn't play with computers."

She said last week that some people in the field still believed that the answer to reversing declining enrollment was building the right game. Another school of thought is what she calls the "we won" claim because women have entered computer-related fields like Web site design that are not traditional computer science. Cassell says that it's not much of a victory, however. The pay is considerably less than in software engineering and the work has less influence on how computers are used, and whether this actually accounts for the diminishing numbers of female computer science majors remains unproved.

Cassell identifies another explanation for the drop in interest, which is linked to the pejorative figure of the "nerd" or "geek." She said that this school of thought was: "Girls and young women don't want to be that person."

I spoke with Spertus last week about her thoughts about the declining percentage of undergraduate women majoring in the field. "Women choosing not to go into computer science is fine," she said, "if there aren't artificial barriers keeping them out." She lamented the recent decision of one of her outstanding computer science students who chose to major in nursing because of what the student perceived as better prospects for finding employment.

Such students who choose not to pursue their interest may have been introduced to computer science too late. The younger, the better, Margolis says. Games would offer considerable promise, except that they have been tried and have failed to have an effect on steeply declining female enrollment.

At least we know one thing: it's possible to have about the same number of men and women in computer science classes. That just about describes classrooms of 25 years ago.

Randall Stross is an author based in Silicon Valley and a professor of business at San Jose State University.

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Solution to Crossword

from page 6

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MIT Partners With QuestBridge to Admit Low-Income Students

Admissions, from Page 1

Michael McCullough, QuestBridge’s founder and president.

QuestBridge also “customizes the recruiting experience for every partner school,” said McCullough. “Each school tells us what they want and we tailor it to their request,” he said. Each partner school might be considering a different group of applicants.

QuestBridge has begun a new program targeting students interested in math, science, and technology, McCullough said.

Although QuestBridge offers scholarships to admitted students, “the university is responsible for those scholarships,” Schmill said. Admitted QuestBridge students will be covered by MIT’s need-based financial aid package. Most, but not all QuestBridge applicants who are matched with a college come from households earning less than \$60,000 annually, according to the organization’s website. MIT provides free tuition for students whose families earn less than \$75,000 per year.

MIT decided to partner with QuestBridge because “we saw there were a lot of students that were not otherwise thinking about MIT,” Schmill said. The Institute’s partnership will last for at least the next two

years.

Colleges who participate in QuestBridge pay the organization recruiting fees of about \$40,000–\$70,000, *The Wall Street Journal* reported last year. “There is an annual fee,” said Schmill, but per student it’s “quite inexpensive for us.”

Schmill said that he suspects there are “some highly talented students” amongst the QuestBridge applicants. Those people “would not have applied to us otherwise,” he said.

While MIT has cooperated with other mostly regional or community programs that identify potential applicants, QuestBridge is the largest and “first national scale program” MIT has partnered with to get connected with applicants.

The 26 QuestBridge partner colleges include the California Institute of Technology, Stanford University, Yale University, and Princeton University, but not Harvard University. In Yale’s first year in the program, it admitted 56 applicants from QuestBridge to its class of 2012.

Participation in the outreach program cannot fully explain this year’s increase in early applicants. Schmill suggested that perhaps more students this year think a “math, science, or technology centered education is valuable.”

Thousands Gather for Proposition 8 Protest

Protest, from Page 1

Springmann said she came to the rally because “it’s about rights. If you don’t do anything your rights could be next in line.”

She said that during election season she had volunteered as a caller with Mass Equality to persuade voters to vote against the proposition that put the same-sex marriage ban in place. “It was frustrating to hear people say Proposition 8 wouldn’t pass and so they didn’t feel it was necessary to do anything to ensure it didn’t pass,” Springmann said.

MIT alumna Cassandra Roth ’07 volunteered for the rally by helping to get petitions signed for a transgender equality bill. She said of the rally: “I hope people remember the energy and carry it back to their families and community and share it with them.”

One of the speakers, special edu-

cation teacher Heather Baker had gotten married the first day it was legalized in Massachusetts. She told the crowd that she is the only openly gay teacher at her school. “I am proud to be that role model for our children,” she said.

Gunner Scott, director of the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition, urged the audience to help pass a bill that would add gender identity to Massachusetts’ nondiscriminatory statutes.

Abigail M. Francis, director of LGBT@MIT, also attended the rally. “It was very inspirational,” she said. “A lot of students came with skepticism as to what the point of protesting would be, but it was a very powerful statement to see everyone there.”

Before the event began, three men walked around with anti-gay signs. Overall, the protest was peaceful.



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Presidents' Pay Rises Faster at Public Universities

By Tamar Lewin
THE NEW YORK TIMES

David J. Sargent, the 77-year-old president of Suffolk University in Boston, received a \$2.8 million pay package in 2006-7 — including a \$436,000 longevity bonus and more than \$1 million in deferred compensation — after the board of trustees, eager to delay his retirement, decided he had long been underpaid.

Mr. Sargent was the nation's

highest-compensated university president in the annual survey by The Chronicle of Higher Education, being released Monday.

Others also received more than \$2 million. David P. Roselle, who resigned as president of the University of Delaware in June 2007, had a package of \$2.4 million, including deferred compensation.

And E. Gordon Gee, who forfeited more than half of his \$2 mil-

lion compensation package when he resigned from Vanderbilt University in 2007 to become president of Ohio State University, is the highest-paid public university president, the survey found. Mr. Gee's Ohio State package was raised just this month to more than \$1.3 million.

While seven-figure pay packages had been limited mostly to prominent private research universities, some presidents of public institutions like

Ohio State and Delaware, or private universities like Suffolk that offer few doctoral degrees, are also topping \$1 million in pay and benefits.

In fact, compensation for public research university presidents is growing faster than for those who head private institutions, the survey found.

"The public universities are still behind, but only by about \$100,000," said Jeffrey Selingo, the editor of The Chronicle.

Median pay and benefits for presidents of public institutions rose 7.6 percent in 2007-8, to \$427,400, The Chronicle said. Over a five-year period, the public universities' median compensation rose 36 percent, compared with 19 percent at private institutions.

The Chronicle's most recent compensation data on public universities came from 2007-8; for private colleges and universities, the most recent data available, from tax filings, is from 2006-7.

"It's surprising that many public universities are raising their presidents' salaries," said Senator Charles E. Grassley of Iowa, the ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, who has been prodding universities for more accountability in spending and greater commitment to affordability. "In these hard economic times, apparently belt-tightening is for families and students, not university presidents."

Among the public university presidents, The Chronicle found, 59 received more than \$500,000 in 2007-8, compared with 43 the previous year. At the private institutions, 89 received at least \$500,000, compared with 81 the previous year.

The highest-earning presidents at private research universities, the survey found, were Henry S. Bienen of Northwestern, \$1,742,560 in total compensation; Lee C. Bollinger of Columbia, \$1,411,894; Shirley Ann Jackson of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, \$1,326,774; and John Sexton of New York University, \$1,324,874.

They were followed by Amy Gutmann of the University of Pennsylvania, \$1,088,786; William R. Brody of Johns Hopkins, \$1,060,772; James W. Wagner of Emory, \$1,040,420; and Constantine N. Papadakis of Drexel, \$1,021,537.

Mr. Selingo pointed out that these compensation packages were negotiated long before the current economic downturn. And despite the

clamor over rising tuition rates, he said, it would be incorrect to suggest that even the highest presidential pay would have much effect on tuition.

"The more interesting comparison is faculty salaries, because that's where there's more tension," he said.

The gap in faculty salaries between private and public institutions is growing. Median faculty pay at a public doctoral institution is about \$109,000, compared with about \$149,000 at a private research university, he said.

Recently, with the economic downturn, a few university presidents have waived or declined their bonuses or raises. For example, The Chronicle reported, in late September, Michael J. Hogan, president of the University of Connecticut, declined what would most likely have been a \$100,000 performance bonus.

Mr. Sargent, the Suffolk president, has pledged \$700,000 to financial aid there.

The circumstances that led to Mr. Sargent's compensation package were unusual. He has been at Suffolk for 52 years, and was mulling retirement in 2006. The board hired a compensation expert and determined that their president, who had earned less than \$400,000 a year until 2004, was "woefully underpaid." The board unanimously approved the \$2.8 million compensation package for 2006-7.

"The package was designed with the understanding that President Sargent's value to the university has been, and is, extraordinary," Nicholas A. Macaronis, chairman of the board, said in a written statement. "Under his leadership as professor, dean of the law school and president, Suffolk has grown into a world-class institution, with campuses on three continents."

Mr. Sargent's 2007-8 compensation has not been disclosed, and Greg Gatlin, a university spokesman, said Mr. Sargent was not available to comment.

The economic downturn could pose problems for Suffolk, a university with more than 9,200 students, including 1,625 at the law school. Last month, Moody's Investors Service, citing Suffolk's aggressive debt structure, said the university had a negative longterm credit outlook.

While Mr. Sargent is in the spotlight now, the longstanding symbol of high pay in academia has been Mr. Gee, the Ohio State president, who in addition to serving at Vanderbilt has served as president of Brown University, the University of Colorado and West Virginia University. He also had a stint at Ohio State.

If he had stayed at Vanderbilt, and not had to forfeit his deferred compensation, Mr. Gee would have been the highest-paid president at a private research university, according to the survey. Instead, he cemented his position as the highest-paid public university president last week, when the trustees approved a bonus structure that would bump up his compensation for his first year.

The trustees raised Mr. Gee's base pay by 3.5 percent, to \$802,125. He is also receiving a 40 percent, or \$310,000, performance bonus for his first full year, with further bonuses in future years. His total compensation since being hired in October 2007, including deferred pay and retirement benefits, comes to almost \$1.4 million, and could approach \$2 million this year.

Photographs by Maria Krajcovic

In nature we see reflections of our children.

The tree is the strong one.
The ocean, rambunctious and untamed.
The sky, the absolute dreamer.

And to choose the tree over the ocean would be like choosing one child over the next.

An impossibility as large as the world itself.

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Don't Let Your Favorite Lose!



Solution to Bonus
from page 7

A	S	P	S	A	D	A	M	S	R	A	P	A
C	H	O	W	T	O	W	E	L	O	R	E	L
R	O	N	A	T	E	A	S	E	O	M	N	I
O	R	D	I	N	A	R	Y	S	E	A	M	A
S	T	E	N	O	Y	T	D	M	A	T		
S	S	R	R	A	R	E	S	E	R	E	N	E
			B	I	L	O	X	I	A	N	T	E
	U	S	A	L	S	U	S	P	E	C	T	S
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B	E	S	T		T	R	A	D	E	S	E	P
I	D	E	E		S	E	W	E	R	T	O	S

Sports Shorts, from Page 16

run that pushed their margin to 17 (55-38) with 11:52 on the clock. Emmanuel battled back, cutting its deficit to 11 (64-53) on a pair of free-throws by Tony Carter-Hill at the 4:13 mark. The late rally would not be enough as MIT scored 18 of the final 25 points to close out the game.

Barotolotta contributed 20 points, seven steals, five rebounds, five assists, and two blocks to the Engineers' cause. James D. Karraker '12 notched 15 points in his intercollegiate debut while Bradley H. Gampel '09 tallied nine points, eight assists, seven steals, and six rebounds.

Next up for MIT will be a road game at Gordon College on Wednesday, Nov. 19.

—James Kramer, DAPER Staff

CCNY Outlasts MIT Women's Basketball, 59-50

A 17-2 second-half run would not be enough as City College of New York held on for a 59-50 victory over MIT in the first round of the 2008 UMass Boston Tip-Off Classic on Saturday. The match-up was the season-opener for both squads.

Clara J. Yuan '09 opened the game with a lay-up at 19:21 of the first half, but it would be the Engineers' only lead of the day as the Beavers came back with a 21-5 outburst over the next 13 minutes. Donika Rex-hepi later converted a lay-up with 2:14 remaining to give CCNY its largest lead of the game (29-12), before taking a 29-16 advantage into the intermission.

The Beavers owned a 37-22 advantage with 16:06 left in the second half, but MIT put together a blistering 17-2 run to tie the score at 39-39, fueled by nine points from Yuan. The Engineers were unable to take the lead from that point and trailed, 47-45, with 3:01 to go in the contest. The Beavers responded by tallying seven straight points to take a 54-45 advantage with 57 seconds remaining.

Yuan led MIT with 15 points in addition to grabbing two rebounds and dishing for an assist while Alice S. Yeh '09 netted 10 points and pulled down three rebounds. Kristen E. Whaley '11 posted a double-double of 11 points and 11 rebounds to go with two assists and a pair of blocked shots. Amy J. Marshall '09 posted 10 caroms and a team-high three assists as Cheryl M. Kwinn '09 totaled nine boards. Jamie L. Simmons '12 chipped in eight points coming off the bench.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

Scoreboard, from Page 15

Scoreboard

Men's Ice Hockey

Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008

Westfield State College (1-1-1) 3

MIT (2-2-1) 3

Women's Ice Hockey

Friday, Nov. 14, 2008

New England College (1-4) 2

MIT (1-0) 3

Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008

Saint Anselm College (4-0) 5

MIT (1-1) 3

Pistol

Friday-Saturday, Nov. 14-Nov. 15, 2008

Ohio State University (4-0) 6433

Citadel Military College 6177

MIT (2-1) 6118

Rifle

Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008

MIT (4-6) 4455

Massachusetts Maritime Academy (2-5) 4172

Men's Soccer

Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008

Saint Lawrence University (13-6-1) 3

MIT (16-4-2) 2

Squash

Friday, Nov. 14, 2008

Bryant University 0

MIT (1-0) 9

Bard College 0

MIT (2-0) 9

Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008

Boston College 0

MIT (3-0) 9

University of Vermont 0

MIT (4-0) 9

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Tues, Nov 18

\$2 Tuesday

Prof. Ed Roberts

Sloan School

6-8pm 50.140



Wed, Nov 19

Innovation in Materials

Dr. Desh Deshpande

Founder, Sycamore Networks

Prof. Gene Fitzgerald

Founder, Amberwave Systems

Prof. Angela Belcher

DMSE


Dr. Dave Danielson

Founder, MIT Energy Club

Prof. Ned Thomas

Head, DMSE

2-3:30pm 4.270




Thurs, Nov 20

Smart Start-Ups

Sherwin Greenblatt

Former President, Bose


5-7pm 1.390



Thurs, Nov 20

SpeedLink

4-6pm 32.124



Thurs, Nov 20

Prizes as Incentives for Innovation


Dr. Erika Wagner

Exec. Director, MIT X-Prize Lab

David Ritter

CTO, InnoCentive

6-8pm 4.231



Fri, Nov 21

Entrepreneurship Showcase

Prof. Ken Oye

Political Science, ESD

Eran Egozy

Co-Founder and CTO, Harmonix (Guitar Hero, Rockband)


Dr. David Berry

Partner, Flagship Ventures; Co-founder, LS9 and Joule Biotech.

Matthias Wagner

Co-founder, Aegis Semiconductor and RedShift Systems

5-7pm MIT Museum



SPORTS

Free Agency: MLB's Offseason Spectacle Commences for '09

By David Zhu
STAFF COLUMNIST

The 2008 MLB Season has come to a close: the championship has been decided, the Philadelphia Phil-

Column

lies had their long-awaited parade down Broad Street, their fans satisfied their need to celebrate with random acts of vandalism, and any day now we'll be seeing commercials on TV of Cole Hamels and company saying that they're going to Disneyland.

Opening Day 2009 isn't for another 138 days, so that means we won't be seeing any action from players and teams until next April, right?

Not quite. Even now, there occurs a spectacle which, in terms of its awe-inspiringness (or lack thereof), can only be paralleled by the New York Mets' ability to choke in September: free agency.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with this concept, free agency is when a player's contract with a team expires, they put themselves on the open market to see how much money they can get from other teams — go look it up on Wikipedia (someone made a really random/stupid edit under the NBA section).

As for the fans, they can pretty much be divided into two groups. Followers of big-market teams (like New York, Los Angeles, and Boston) with way too much money are no doubt thrilled their teams are willing to throw hundreds of millions of dollars around shopping for free agents, while fans of smaller-market teams with low payrolls are less-than-thrilled to see their star players leave for a better contract from the Yankees

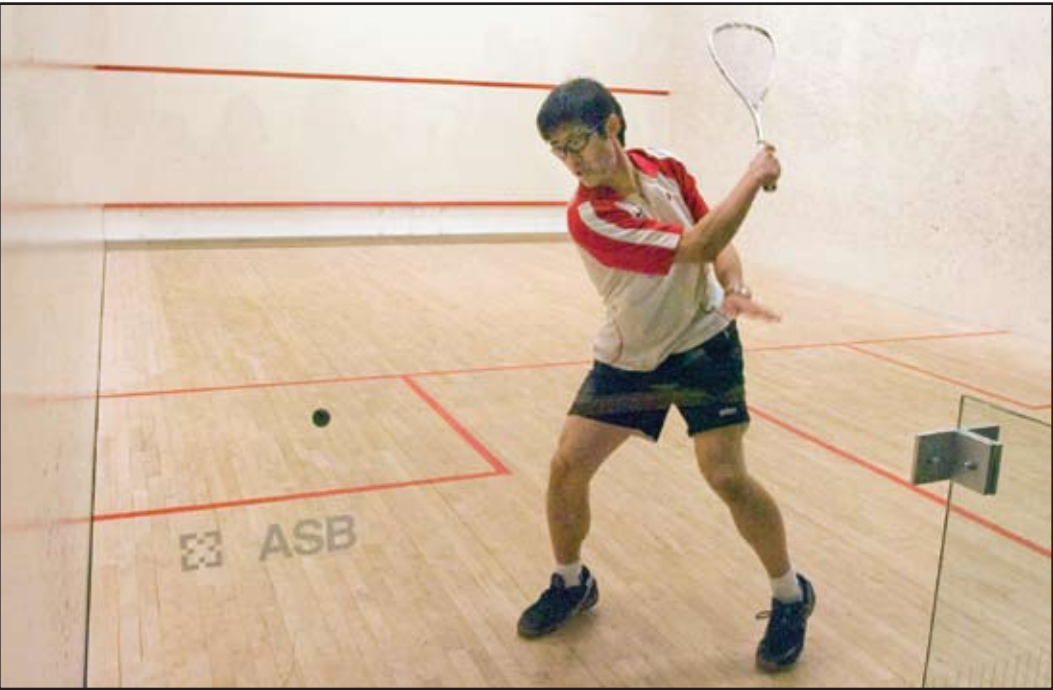
or Red Sox. (And for those of you who are appalled by my grouping the two together, it's true. The Red Sox are turning into the new Yankees — remember the Dice-K bidding — except not as many people hate them.)

While I, as a Seattle Mariners fan (yes, the Mariners of \$100+ million payroll and 100+ losses), should fall into the first group, I consider myself a member of the latter. I just have a problem when I see players making more money than they could ever figure out how to use, or when teams spend obscene amounts of money on players, however good they are. Consider this: the MLB's total payroll this year is higher than the Gross Domestic Product of 34 countries.

But then again, as this season so brilliantly illustrated, money doesn't always buy success. The Mariners were in the top 10 in salary but finished last in their division, as did the Detroit Tigers. The Tampa Bay Rays, in comparison, had the second smallest payroll but won the American League pennant.

However, even though stories like the Rays this year and the Colorado Rockies last year provide hope that any team can be successful, their young-players-turned-stars will inevitably leave them in search for a bigger paycheck.

So, as I sit here, watching Scott Boras and the rest of the players' agents turn the MLB offseason into eBay on steroids (both figuratively and literally) and the Yankees make another ridiculous offer to C.C. Sabathia, I can take comfort in knowing that no matter how much the Yankees spend, they will still be terrible — and we'll have another reason to make fun of them.



STEVE HOWLAND—THE TECH

Andrew Yoon '10 prepares for a backhand drive during the squash match against Bard College on Friday, Nov. 14. MIT went 4-0 in their opening set of matches and defeated Bryant University, Bard College, Boston College, and University of Vermont.

St. Lawrence Edges Out MIT Men's Soccer, 3-2, in NCAA Tournament

The MIT men's soccer team saw its record-breaking season come to an end following a 3-2 loss to St. Lawrence University in the first round of the NCAA

Division III Men's Soccer Championship Tournament on Saturday. The Engineers closed the campaign with a record of 16-4-2.

Both sides had several opportunities to open the scoring early, but neither squad could capitalize on its chances. An hour-long lighting delay with 1:24 left in the first half did not stop MIT's building momentum. With four seconds on the clock, Christian W. Therkelsen '11 sent a free kick into the top right corner for his 16th goal of the season and Institute-record 40th point.

MIT extended its advantage in the 53rd minute when Andrew M. Bishara '09 converted a penalty kick. The senior midfielder faked St. Lawrence's goalie, who dove left as he sent a low ball to the right side of the net.

The Saints cut their deficit in half eight minutes later on a strike by Brendan Gorman. Paul LaMarca's shot was initially stopped by MIT goalie Thomas S. Caldwell '09, but Gorman gathered the rebound and converted the open-net opportunity. St. Lawrence

continued to attack, tying the game at two in the 74th minute on Ryan Moore's corner kick that was redirected by Gorman. The Saints' Paul LaMarca registered what proved to be the game-winning goal five minutes later, firing a low hard shot from 30 yards out to the right side.

Caldwell collected eight saves for MIT, finishing first all-time in shutouts (19), second in goals against average (1.50), fourth in saves (345), fifth in fewest goals allowed (65), and ninth in save percentage (0.767).

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

Men's Basketball Defeats Emmanuel, 80-62

In the season-opener for both squads, the MIT men's basketball team registered an 82-60 victory over visiting Emmanuel College on Saturday afternoon. Hamidou Soumare '08 posted a game-high 28 points on 9-for-10 shooting from the floor while collecting 15 rebounds.

MIT established a 12-6 edge just over six minutes into the contest. Emmanuel tallied seven unanswered points in a span of 1:14, capped by a lay-up from Rob Williams-Hinton. Four lead changes and three ties ensued before the Saints went up with their largest lead of the day, 22-19. The lead was short-lived, as a free-throw by Soumare coupled with a three-pointer by James M. "Jimmy" Bartolotta '09 put MIT ahead for good (23-22) a minute later.

The Engineers opened the second half with a 20-9

Sports Shorts, Page 15

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2008

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Northeastern University
7 p.m., Johnson Athletic Center



CHELSEA GRIMM—THE TECH

(Front to back) Leslie C. Sprague '09, Jenna R. Sternberg '11, Jane M. Wolcott '09, Alice M. Ainsworth '09, and coxswain Grace Lin '12, of the varsity openweight team, competed in Saturday's Foot of the Charles Regatta despite rainy conditions. The Engineers entered boats from each of the women's teams in this 2.5 mile annual race.

SCOREBOARD

Men's Basketball	
Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008	
Emmanuel College (0-1)	60
MIT (1-0)	82

Women's Basketball	
Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008	
City College of New York (1-0)	59
MIT (0-1)	50
Sunday, Nov. 16, 2008	
Eastern Nazarene College (0-2)	42
MIT (1-1)	52

Men's Cross Country	
Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008	
NCAA New England Regional Championship	
MIT	8th of 49

Women's Cross Country	
Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008	
NCAA New England Regional Championship	
MIT	3rd of 49

Scoreboard, Page 15

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